Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 L-03

PER-01 FBO-02 /028 W

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R 101035Z MAR 76 FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6213 INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK AMCONSUL UDORN

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINS, AFSP

SUBJECT: ARREST OF EMBASSY TCN EMPLOYEE

- 1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN INFORMED BY LOCAL SOURCES THAT THAI NATIONAL EMBASSY ELECTRICIAN, YIEM TAEYOO, WAS ARRESTED BY LAO AUTHORITIES ON OR ABOUT MARCH 1, 1976, WHILE ENROUTE FROM THE BORDER CROSSING POINT OF THA DEUA TO VIENTIANE IN A TAXI. EMBASSY HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM ARREST WITH LAO AUTHORITIES BUT, AS HE HAS NOT BEEN AT WORK NOR HAS HE BEEN HOME IN NONGKHAI, THAILAND SINCE LEAVING FOR WORK ON MORNING MARCH 1, WE TEND TO CREDIT REPORTS OF ARREST.
- 2. THAI EMBASSY IS, OF COURSE, TAKING THE LEAD IN MAKING REPRESENTATIONS ON HIS CASE. THAI EMBOFF HAS MADE INQUIRIES AT MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) AND POLICE AND EMBASSY HAS SENT NOTE. WE HAVE ALSO SENT NOTE STATING THAT WE HAVE RECEIVED REPORTS OF ARREST AND ASKING MFA FOR ANY ASSISTANCE WHICH IT COULD RENDER IN THE MATTER.
- 3. COMMENT: MR. YIEM WAS ALLEGEDLY ARRESTED WHILE IN THE COMPANY OF TWO THAI NATIONALS WHO WERE FORMER EMPLOYEES OF USAID/LAOS. THEIR BUSINESS IN LAOS IS NOT KNOWN. WE HAVE ALSO HEARD THAT A GENERATOR OPERATOR WHO HAD BEEN FIRED FROM EMPLOYEMENT WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EMBASSY MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR, UNIVERSAL AMERICAN

ENTERPRISES, HAD THREATENED TO GET REVENGE ON MR. YIEM. EVEN IF HE IS RELEASED PROMPTLY, EMBASSY SEES THE ALMOST SURE PROSPECT OF DOING WITHOUT HIS SERVICES AS, IN SIMILAR CASES IN THE PAST, LAO AUTHORITIES HAVE DEPORTED THAI NATIONALS AFTER THEIR RELEASE FROM PRISON. CORCORAN

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Message Attributes

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Subject: ARREST OF EMBASSY TCN EMPLOYEE TAGS: PINS, AFSP, US, TH, (YIEM TAEYOO)
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